MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN
ENGINEERING ACOUSTICS

**TIME DELAY ESTIMATION FOR UNDERWATER SIGNALS
AND APPLICATION TO LOCALIZATION**
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The problem of time difference of arrival (TDOA) is important in underwater acoustics for both passive and active sonar. Classical approaches to this problem are based on generalized cross-correlation (GCC) methods implemented in the frequency domain. After appropriate weighting of the cross spectral data in the frequency domain, an inverse discrete Fourier transform (IDFT) is performed and the peak of the resulting GCC function is located in the time domain.

This thesis shows that the cross-spectrum of the data satisfies an appropriate signal subspace model; therefore the IDFT can be replaced with a signal subspace technique such as MUSIC. The result is an enhanced ability to locate the peak. Further, application of methods such as root-MUSIC or ESPRIT produce direct numerical estimates for TDOA without the need to search for a peak. Results are presented for an extensive set of simulations using both synthetic signal data and data from a ocean acoustic propagation model (MMPE). Results are further presented for an application of the new method to target localization and tracking. In all cases results are compared using both the new methods and the classical methods.